

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /031 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/RPE:JTARRANT

APPROVED BY T - WDONALDSON

T/IEP:AKATZ

S/S:DMILLER

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O 150053Z JAN 74 ZFF6

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 008382

EXDIS, TOSEC 86

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO PRESIDENT'S INVITATION

FOR SECRETARY FROM DONALDSON

FOLLOWING ARE LATEST RESPONSES/REACTIONS TO PRESIDENT'S
INVITATION TO ATTEND WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE:

1. JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER TANAKA HAS ACCEPTED THE
PRESIDENT'S INVITATION TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE
FEBRUARY MEETING. IN HIS LETTER OF JANUARY 14 TO PRESIDENT
NIXON HE ALSO EXPRESSED HOPE THAT WASHINGTON MEETING WILL
BE A "FIRST STEP TOWARD ESTABLISHING HARMONIOUS RELATIONS
BETWEEN OIL PRODUCER AND CONSUMER COUNTRIES." AS YOU MAY
KNOW, WE HAVE RECEIVED INFORMAL ACCEPTANCES FROM CANADA
AND NORWAY TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES. FORMAL LETTERS OF AC-
CEPTANCE ARE EXPECTED LATER.

2. AS FOR EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, WE HAVE RECEIVED POSI-
TIVE INDICATIONS FROM UK, FRG, ITALY AND NETHERLANDS.
FRENCH HAVE SAID THEY PLAN TO ATTEND; BUT CABOUAT, SENIOR
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OFFICIAL HANDLING ENERGY POLICY UNDER BRUNET IN MFA ECO-
NOMIC DIRECTORATE, HAS RAISED A NUMBER OF IMPLICITLY NEGA-
TIVE QUESTIONS ON BOTH SCENARIO AND SUBSTANCE OF CON-
FERENCE. (CONTAINED IN PARIS 974/TOSEC 78 REPEATED TO YOU.)

DEPARTMENT REPLIED THAT PERTINENT U.S. POSITIONS

CONTAINED IN YOUR PUBLIC STATEMENTS AND WE SEE LITTLE TO BE GAINED IN DIALOGUE ON THESE POINTS AT THIS TIME. COMMUNITY COUNTRIES ARE SEEKING TO MAKE COORDINATED REPLIES TO PRESIDENT'S LETTER, BUT THIS POSSIBLE ONLY AFTER EC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING NOW IN PROGRESS. COUNCIL MET INTO THE NIGHT MONDAY (JANUARY 14) IN RESTRICTED SESSION WHICH WE ARE INFORMED DEALT ONLY WITH REGIONAL FUND IMPASSE. ENERGY MATTERS ARE SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY.

3. YAMANI IS REPORTED IN PRESS REPORTS FROM ROME ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 12) AS SAYING "IT IS UP TO ANY CONSUMING COUNTRIES TO GET TOGETHER AND DISCUSS THEIR PROBLEMS. WE DON'T WANT TO INTERFERE IN THEIR INTERNAL AFFAIRS. ALL WE ARE CONCERNED WITH, AND WE HOPE IT WON'T HAPPEN, IS THAT THE CONSUMERS DON'T FORM A BLOCK WHICH WILL HAVE ANY SORT OF CONFRONTATION WITH THE PRODUCERS, BECAUSE THEN THE WHOLE WORLD WILL GO THROUGH A REAL DISASTER.'

4. OECD SEC GEN VAN LENNEP HAS OFFERED FULL CO-OPERATION OF HIS ORGANIZATION IN CONNECTION WITH THE FEBRUARY MEETING. IF CONSIDERED DESIRABLE BY US, HE IS READY TO HAVE HIS SECRETARIAT PREPARE DOCUMENTATION ON CONFERENCE ISSUES (ESPECIALLY ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF OIL SHORTAGE) TO BE EXAMINED BY FOREIGN MINISTERS AND TO USE THE OECD FOR MULTILATERAL DISSEMINATION TO MEMBERS OF CONFERENCE RELATED INFORMATION. RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 27 JUL 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, INVITATIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE008382
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EUR/RPE:JTARRANT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: P750004-1342
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740175/abbrzbtc.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <30-Sep-2002 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RESPONSE TO PRESIDENT'S INVITATION
TAGS: ENRG, US, IS, JA
To: JERUSALEM INFO TEL AVIV
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005